

INFORMATION REPORT . INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY **China** REPORT

SUBJECT **Port of Shanghai** DATE DISTR. **8 May 59** 25X1

NO. PAGES **3** 25X1

REFERENCES 25X1

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[The Office of Naval Intelligence furnished the following information (11th Naval District 44-59) to CIA for USIB dissemination

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3. **Restrictions:** There was only limited use of radar. No cameras are allowed to be used in port; however, photos may be taken in the city of Shanghai. All film must be developed before departure. One year ago cameras were not allowed in any area. Merchant seamen are free to go ashore. Of course, they cannot loiter in the port or river area. 25X1

4. **Berth:** at Area A is a pontoon mooring with room enough for one ship.
- at Area B the depth of water was approximately 24-25 feet at 25X1

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low water. The wharf was of wood construction. The best berthing area was the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf (believed now known as the Kao Yang Wharf).

5. Unloading Procedure: Due to lack of alongside berthing area, approximately 70 percent of the ships are moored to buoys which are shown on enclosure. Ships use own gear to unload heavy cargo. The cargo is unloaded into lighters and junks and then taken to shore where mobile cranes complete the process.
6. Warehouses and Storage Sheds: The warehouses and storage sheds are much the same as they were before WWII, being in a very broken down and unsatisfactory condition.
7. New Construction: The entire shore line of Area C of enclosure is under construction. The majority of the work consists of extending the present wharfs and building new ones. The progress of the construction has been extremely rapid [redacted] Construction and rehabilitation are also being effected on warehouses and storage sheds over the entire port area. The pre-war MOLLER (phonetic) Yard is now a complete shipyard which is building landing craft type vessels. Every day people were working extremely hard on the craft. 25X1
8. Merchandise Activity: The port area was very congested with merchant ships, junks, and lighters. [redacted] approximately 12 Soviet merchant ships of six thousand gross tons and under, moored at the buoys in general Area E of enclosure. Cargo was [redacted] large wooden cases and bags resembling grain bags. The Soviet ships looked "filthy" and their crews were poorly dressed. 25X1
9. Port Defenses: The banks of the Hwangpoo River are literally covered with anti-aircraft guns, especially on the southern/western bank, which extend to the Yangtze and to the sea. [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] machine guns and other artillery are concealed in little shacks and hay stacks along the river bank. Powerful searchlights were scattered on the river banks and also were especially concentrated on the southern/western bank.
10. Naval Activity: [redacted] at various times, 30 to many more landing craft type vessels of LST size and smaller, and 7-10 Corvet type craft in the Woosung Area D as shown on enclosure. The landing craft appeared highly over-equipped with machine guns and armament. There is continual naval practice on the river with above-mentioned vessels. [redacted] observed "RIGA Class destroyers" at Areas F and G. [redacted] They were flying the ChiCom flag. [redacted] saw approximately five destroyers in each area. [redacted] two were observed at Area F and one at Area G. Ships were in very good condition and fully manned. [redacted] No submarines were observed. 25X1
11. Air Activity: [redacted] 12 fighter type jet aircraft overflying the port area. [redacted] 25X1
12. Repair Work: Routine maintenance work such as chipping and painting [redacted] work was very poor, [redacted] 25X1
13. Local Conditions of City and People: There is a tremendous amount of propaganda being circulated about the new government and how beneficial it is to the people. [redacted] are not very impressed. It appears that most of the skilled workers and foremen have been moved to the heavy industries; therefore, the quality of work for the general public was poor. 25X1

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The city of Shanghai was very dismal in comparison to pre-war days. Night life was almost completely lacking. At night the city was very dark and looked like a small village rather than the huge bright city of past decades.

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[redacted] the International Club [redacted] is a center for foreigners only. All types of consumer goods could be purchased here, including alcoholic beverages. The articles purchased cost almost 50 percent less than the cost in the regular stores. The goods were of a very good quality. The International Club would deliver the goods [redacted] as the purchasers were not allowed to take them themselves.

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14. Miscellaneous:

[redacted] the shipyard [redacted] in Dairen was being used only for construction and repair of merchant ships and that naval ships were not being constructed or fitted out there.

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15.

[redacted] submarines are being constructed in T'ien-ching.

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16.

[redacted] Comment: The rapid construction of new port facilities and extension of wharfs would seem to point out that the ChiComs most certainly intend to continue expanding their world trade potential and merchant fleet.

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